



CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims (~~striketrough~~ or ~~[[double-brackets]]~~ indicating deletion and underline indicating insertion) as follows:

1. (currently amended) A scent-elimination system for a hunter, comprising:

a hunting blind in which the hunter may be concealed; and

a filtration unit ~~coupled to the blind and~~ adapted to draw ambient air into the blind, across the hunter to absorb human odors into the air, and through the filtration unit to absorb the human odors thereinto, and to direct the filtered air out to the environment.
2. (currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the blind has ~~a filtration unit~~ an air outlet opening formed therein that receives at least a portion of the filtration unit.
3. (currently amended) The system of Claim 2, wherein the blind has ~~an~~ at least one upper air inlet opening and the air outlet ~~filtration unit~~ opening is defined at a lower portion of the blind, wherein the air is drawn into the blind though the upper air inlet opening and downward towards the ~~filtration unit~~ lower air outlet opening.
4. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the filtration unit comprises a scent-elimination element.
- 5 (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the filtration unit comprises an air mover.
6. (original) The system of Claim 1, further comprising a blind support adapted for mounting to a tree.

7. (original) The system of Claim 6, wherein the blind support includes a tree-mounting bracket and a frame that mounts to the bracket.
8. (original) The system of Claim 7, wherein the blind support frame includes an end member and two side members pivotally coupled to the end member.
9. (original) The system of Claim 7, wherein the tree-mounting bracket includes two connector members and the support frame includes two connector members that mount to the bracket connector members.
10. (original) The system of Claim 9, wherein the bracket connector members are outwardly angled and the support frame connector members are inwardly angled for alignment with the outwardly angled bracket connector members.
11. (currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the hunting blind is made of a ~~sent absorbing~~ scent-absorbing material.
12. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the hunting blind comprises a right side panel, a left side panel, a front end panel, and a bottom panel, wherein the top and back are open.
13. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the hunting blind comprises a plurality of panels that are sectionalized and detachably coupled together so that the hunter may selectively detach at least two of the panels to permit the hunter to enter and exit the blind, and to permit coupling the panels together around ladders of tree stands for forming a good seal.

14. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the hunting blind comprises a left side panel, a right side panel, and a bottom panel therebetween, the left and right side panels having tree-wrapping portions that extend beyond the bottom panel, wherein the left and right side panel tree-wrapping portions may be wrapped at least partially around a tree to form a good seal.

15. (original) The system of Claim 14, wherein the bottom panel has an elastic edge for stretching into a conforming engagement with the tree to form a good seal.

16. (original) The system of Claim 14, wherein the left and right side panel tree-wrapping portions include at least one pair of straps sufficiently long that they may be wrapped around the tree in a crossed fashion and bound together inside the blind to secure the tree-wrapping portions tightly against the tree with the good seal.

17. (currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the blind comprises a bottom panel, the air outlet ~~filtration unit~~ opening is defined in the bottom panel, and the filtration unit is adapted for exhausting the filtered air ~~has at least one portion that extends through~~ through the air outlet ~~filtration unit opening and at least one other portion that overhangs~~ and is supported by the bottom panel.

18. (original) The system of Claim 1, further comprising a remote on/off control switch electrically connectable to the filtration unit for operating the filtration unit.

19. (original) A hunting blind for use in a scent-elimination system for a hunter, comprising:

a left side panel, a right side panel, and a bottom panel therebetween, the left and right side panels having tree-wrapping portions that extend beyond the bottom panel, wherein the left and right side panel tree-wrapping portions may be wrapped at least partially around a tree to form a good seal.

20. (original) The blind of Claim 19, wherein the bottom panel has an elastic edge for stretching into a conforming engagement with the tree to form a good seal.

21. (original) The blind of Claim 19, wherein the left and right side panel tree-wrapping portions include at least one pair of straps sufficiently long that they may be wrapped around the tree in a crossed fashion and bound together inside the blind to secure the tree-wrapping portions tightly against the tree with the good seal.

22. (original) The blind of Claim 19, wherein the hunting blind comprises a plurality of panels that are sectionalized and detachably coupled together so that the hunter may selectively detach at least two of the panels to permit the hunter to enter and exit the blind, and to permit coupling the panels together around ladders of tree stands for forming a good seal.

23. (currently amended) The blind of Claim 19, wherein the blind has a filtration unit an air outlet opening formed therein ~~that receives at least a portion of~~ through which the filtration unit exhausts filtered air.

24. (currently amended) The blind of Claim 19, wherein the blind has ~~an~~ at least one upper air inlet opening and the air outlet ~~filtration unit~~ opening is defined at a lower portion of the blind, wherein the air is drawn into the blind through the upper air inlet opening and downward towards the ~~filtration unit~~ lower air outlet opening.

25. (canceled)

26. (currently amended) ~~The blind support of Claim 25~~ A blind support for a hunting blind for a hunter, comprising:

a tree-mounting bracket adapted for mounting to a tree; and
a horizontal frame adapted for mounting to the bracket and supporting the blind,
wherein the blind support frame includes ~~an~~ a horizontal end member and two horizontal side members pivotally coupled to the end member, wherein the pivotal side members can be unfolded for use so that the horizontal frame is generally U-shaped, and the pivotal side members can be folded and collapsed into a compact arrangement for storage and transportation.

27. (currently amended) The blind support of Claim ~~25~~ 26, wherein the tree-mounting bracket includes two connector members and the support frame includes two connector members that removably mount to the bracket connector members so that the bracket and frame can be coupled together for use and disassembled for when not in use.

28. (canceled)

29. (currently amended) The blind support of Claim ~~25~~ 26, wherein the bracket comprises a lateral member, two connector members at opposing ends of the lateral member, two tree-mounting members extending vertically from the lateral member, and a tree-circumscribing strap coupled to the tree-mounting members, wherein the connector members removably couple to the frame so that the bracket and frame can be coupled together for use and disassembled for when not in use.

30. (currently amended) A filtration unit for use with a ~~scent-elimination system~~ hunting blind for a hunter, comprising:

a scent-elimination element adapted for absorbing human scents from the hunter;
an air mover adapted for drawing scent-carrying air across the scent-elimination element and directing-exhausting the now unscented air ~~out to a hunting environment~~; and
a portable power source for the air mover,

wherein the filtration unit at least one portion that extends through is adapted for directing the now unscented air through a filtration unit an air outlet opening in a the hunting blind and at least one other portion that overhangs and is supported by the hunting blind out to a hunting environment.

31. (currently amended) The filtration unit of Claim 30, further comprising a remote on/off control switch electrically connectable to the filtration unit and the portable power source for operating the filtration unit from within the blind when installed in the hunting environment.

32. (original) The filtration unit of Claim 30, wherein the scent-elimination element comprises an activated carbon material.

33. (currently amended) A method of eliminating a hunter's scent from a hunting area, comprising:

~~positioning the hunter in~~ providing a blind defining a closed space except for an ~~upper~~ at least one air inlet opening and a ~~lower~~ an air filtration-outlet opening;

providing a filtration unit for scent elimination;

drawing ambient air into the blind through the ~~upper~~ air inlet and ~~downwardly~~ around the hunter to absorb human odors into the air;

drawing the scent-laden air into ~~a~~ the filtration unit for scent elimination; and

directing the cleaned air through the ~~lower~~ air filtration-outlet opening, out of the blind, and into the hunting area.

34. (original) The method of Claim 33, further comprising the step of mounting the blind to a tree with a good seal.

35. (original) The method of Claim 34, wherein the step of mounting the blind to a tree with a good seal comprises wrapping two extended side panel portions at least partially around the tree.

36. (original) The method of Claim 35, wherein the step of mounting the blind to a tree with a good seal further comprises stretching an elastic edge of a bottom panel of the blind into a conforming engagement with the tree.

37. (original) The method of Claim 35, wherein the step of mounting the blind to a tree with a good seal further comprises wrapping at least one pair of straps, which are attached to the two extended side panel portions, around the tree in a crossed fashion and binding them together inside the blind to secure the two extended side panel portions tightly against the tree.

38. (new) The filtration unit of Claim 30, wherein the filtration unit has a first portion that is adapted for extending through the air outlet opening in the hunting blind and a second portion that overhangs and is supported by the hunting blind.

39. (new) The filtration unit of Claim 38, wherein the first portion includes at least a portion of the air mover and the second portion includes at least a portion of the scent-elimination element.

40. (new) The method of Claim 33, wherein the air inlet opening is defined in an upper portion of the blind and the air outlet is defined in a lower portion of the blind, wherein the step of drawing ambient air comprises drawing ambient air into the blind through the upper air inlet and downwardly around the hunter to absorb human odors into the air.